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BOROUGH OF THORNABY-ON-TEES



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY

CIRCUMSTANCES

OF THE BOROUGH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954

J. McGOVERN, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

BOROUGH OF THORNABY-ON-TEES

Mayor :

COUNCILLOR JAMES NEIL SCOTT

Deputy Mayor :

*ALDERMAN HARRY DRINKEL

Aldermen :

*E. E. Brennan, J.P., C.C.	A. Nicholson.
H. Dacre, J.P.	T. Padgett.
*Miss G. Holmes, J.P.	

Councillors :

C. Allen.	H. Probst.
C. Anderton, C.C.	D. Russell.
F. Bage (elected 13.5.54).	E. E. Shepherd.
J. B. Burton.	*Mrs. S. J. Smith.
J. W. Collinson, M.B.E.	J. B. A. Suttill.
J. Corfield.	H. Tanfield.
J. Hudson, C.C.	H. J. Ward.
D. Jenkins.	J. White.
J. Kidd	

Chairmen :

Sanitary Committee Ald. E. E. Brennan, J.P., C.C.
Local Health Sub-Committee

for Thornaby Area Ald. E. E. Brennan, J.P., C.C.

*Members of the Local Health Committee for the Thornaby Area.

The Sanitary Committee consists of the whole of the members of the Council.

Town Clerk	A. Stockwell.
Borough Treasurer	H. M. Draycott, F.I.M.T.A.
Borough Engineer	J. L. Watson, M.I.Mun.E., M.R.San.I.

Public Health Staff :

Medical Officer of Health

J. McGOVERN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector

H. C. SLATER, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

R. W. DOBSON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

To the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough of Thornaby-on-Tees for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

My predecessor Dr. J. W. A. Rodgers was your Medical Officer of Health during the most of the year 1954, and the report deals with the Health of the Community and the Sanitary Circumstances prevailing during his period of office.

The year 1954 presented a variegated picture, bright and dark features being noted. The death rate was lower than the previous year, the maternal mortality rate was nil and the incidence of infectious disease less than the previous year, with a complete absence of poliomyelitis.

It is noteworthy that the birth rate at 19.7 per 1,000 of the population is appreciably higher than the figure of 15.2 for the country as a whole. There is little cause for complacency however, when we come to examine the infant mortality rate, which at 48 per 1,000 related live births is almost twice as high as the figure of 25.5 for England and Wales. This high infant mortality rate causes concern when one considers that the national figure is the lowest ever recorded and follows the previous year's lowest ever figure. The infant mortality figure is largely accounted for by the high neo-natal mortality rate of 38 per 1,000 related live births which is more than twice the national figure of 17.7.

Of the total of twenty-four infant deaths, nineteen occurred inside the first four weeks, twelve of these being due to prematurity. The premature child, as we can understand, is very vulnerable to infection and consequently a higher mortality rate can be expected among these children.

The death rate for the whole community was little above the rate for the country as a whole and presents little difference from the picture generally prevailing. The principal cause of death was cardio-vascular disease and this can be expected in a population whose span of life is being extended. The second largest cause of death was cancer and this again is the state of affairs existing throughout England and Wales. Cancer is usually a disease of the upper age groups and the increase in numbers of our older population necessarily shows an exaggerated figure.

Tuberculosis showed little variation, thirty-four notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis being received during the year in comparison with thirty-five the previous year.

Meat inspection was carried out at the one slaughterhouse licenced following the cessation of rationing during the year. This involved extra duties for the Sanitary Inspectors but 100% meat inspection was maintained.

Eighty-seven houses were built during 1954, seventy-four by the Council and thirteen by private enterprise. The housing difficulty in the town is aggravated by the lack of sites available. This is a problem which will increasingly confront the Council in the coming year.

I should, at this point, like to thank the Council for the warm welcome which I received on taking up the post of Medical Officer of Health this year. I also wish to thank the Officers of the Council for the help given me since my arrival and finally I must express my gratitude to the members of the Public Health Staff for their willing assistance at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. McGOVERN.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (Acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,993
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,800
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954)	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,302
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£100,699
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£385

The Town is situated on the southerly bank of the River Tees which forms the northern boundary of the Borough and separates it from the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees. On the easterly side it is contiguous with the County Borough of Middlesbrough, and on the southerly and westerly sides with the Rural District of Stokesley.

The surface of the ground is mainly flat, the sub-soil clay, and the industries carried on in the town are mainly connected with the iron and steel trades.

Many of the population work in the neighbouring areas of Middlesbrough, Stockton and Billingham.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1954.

		Total	Male	Female
Live Births—Legitimate	...	476	249	227
Illegitimate	...	24	14	10
Total	...	500	263	237

Birth Rates.

Legitimate	18.80	per 1,000	estimated resident population.
Illegitimate	.95	„	„
Total	19.75	„	„

Still Births—Legitimate	...	16	8	8
Illegitimate	...	1	0	1
Total	...	17	8	9

Still Birth Rate—32.88 per 1,000 live and still births.

		Total	Male	Female
Deaths	...	217	112	105
Death Rate—11.94	per 1,000	estimated resident population.		

Deaths from Puerperal Causes—Nil.

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 (live and still births)
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	Nil	0.00

Infant Mortality—48.00 per 1,000 live births.

Mortality of Legitimate Infants—48.32 per 1,000 legitimate live births.

Mortality of Illegitimate Infants—41.66 per 1,000 illegitimate live births.

Death from Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

The causes of the greatest mortality during 1954 were :

Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which requires any comment.

Comparison of Statistics for the Years 1953 & 1954.

	1953	1954
Population	23,880	23,800
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	20.41	19.75
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	12.66	11.94
Infant Mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	35.56	48.00

Infant Mortality

Causes of death of infants under 1 year

Asphyxia (Misadventure)	...	...	...	...	1
Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	1

Causes of deaths of infants under 4 weeks

Cerebral Haemmorrhage	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	1
Hydocephalus and Meningocele	...	...	...	...	1
Icterus Gravis Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	1
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	12
Severe Congenital Defects	...	...	...	...	1

Total 24

Twenty-two of these cases died in Hospital and had every medical and nursing care.

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES and ANALYSIS of MORTALITY in the Year 1954.

	Rate Per 1,000 Population		Rate Per 1,000 Live and Still Births	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births	Rate Per 1,000 Total Births
	Live Births	Deaths (All Causes)	Still Births	Infant Mortality	Maternal Mortality
England and Wales	15.2	11.30	23.4	25.3	0.69
Thornaby-on-Tees	19.7	11.94	32.8	48.0	0.00

**CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1954.**

Notifiable Diseases	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.													Total Deaths
	Total Cases at all Ages	AT AGES — YEARS												
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & Over	
Diphtheria ...	5	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	1	—
Measles ...	166	12	21	23	34	14	61	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	13	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	1	6	1	14
Scarlet Fever ...	26	—	—	2	3	1	10	5	2	2	—	1	—	—
Staphylococcal Food Poisoning ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	13	6	1	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	235	20	22	27	38	16	82	7	3	4	1	13	2	15

DIPHThERIA PREVENTION.

Diphtheria anti-toxin is supplied free to any Medical Practitioner in the Town who applies for it. Swabs from suspected cases are examined at the Public Health Laboratory, General Hospital, Middlesbrough.

There were 5 cases of diphtheria during the year.

As regards diphtheria prevention, over 90% of Thornaby school children have been immunised against the disease since the inception of the Anti-Diphtheria Campaign in 1940.

In the course of medical inspections at schools and at the Welfare Centres parents are encouraged to have their children protected against Diphtheria either at the Clinic on Monday or Thursday or by a private medical practitioner by arrangement.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table shows the new cases and deaths for the Borough of Thornaby-on-Tees during 1954 :—

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				TOTAL DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 „ ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 „ ...	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 „ ...	—	5	—	—	—	1	—	—
25—35 „ ...	9	2	—	—	—	3	—	—
35—45 „ ...	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
45—55 „ ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 „ ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	18	16	—	1	—	5	—	—

Classification of Non-Pulmonary cases of Tuberculosis :—
Mesenteric and Peritoneum 1.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1933-1954.

YEAR		Population Estimated	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality
1933	...	21,320	19.0	12.3	66.6
1934	...	21,270	20.4	12.1	55.2
1935	...	21,330	19.1	13.2	66.1
1936	...	21,630	19.74	12.1	82.0
1937	...	21,740	20.92	10.9	39.0
1938	...	21,740	20.3	11.4	65.9
1939	...	21,950	20.5	11.9	75.2
		}			
		21,730			
1940	...	20,870	20.6	13.0	76.7
1941	...	20,870	20.1	13.1	58.4
1942	...	20,810	19.1	11.0	65.5
1943	...	20,600	22.0	13.9	70.6
1944	...	20,560	22.7	11.3	55.5
1945	...	20,780	19.3	11.9	82.0
1946	...	22,030	21.9	12.0	51.6
1947	...	22,400	25.1	11.9	53.4
1948	...	22,850	22.3	10.7	55.0
1949	...	23,210	23.2	10.2	33.4
1950	...	23,490	20.3	12.0	56.6
1951	...	23,380	21.8	13.2	41.1
1952	...	23,630	19.6	12.1	26.9
1953	...	23,880	20.4	12.6	35.5
1954	...	23,800	19.7	11.9	48.0

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1954.

CAUSES OF DEATH					Males	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	...	112	105
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	—	5
Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	—
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	3	—
„ „ lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	6	1
„ „ breast	...	...	...	...	—	4
„ „ uterus	...	...	...	...	—	4
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	10	11
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	11	12
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	23	11
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	4	1
Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	5	25
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	5	3
Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	11	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	—	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	2	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	16	14
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	2	—
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	9	2
Suicide	...	...	...	...	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	1	—

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

At the beginning of the Report a list is given showing the Officers connected with the Health Services in the Borough.

2. SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities. During the year the Borough Council continued the arrangements offered by the Public Health Laboratory, General Hospital, Middlesbrough, in respect of the diagnosis of pathological specimens.

3. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

With certain exceptions the Thornaby Area Health Sub-Committee exercises the functions of the Local Health Authority in supervising the services provided for under this Act. The Committee meets once a month in Thornaby and is comprised of members of the County Council, the Borough of Thornaby-on-Tees and the Rural District of Stokesley. Among the services for which they are responsible to the County Council are the following :—

Domestic Helps.

Prevention of illness ; care and after care.

The Ambulance Service.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Home Nursing.

Health Visiting.

Midwifery.

Care of mothers and young children.

In this connection, a very comprehensive programme of clinical work is carried out in the Health Centre, Thornaby :—

(a) District Nurses and Midwives operating in the Borough.

Nurse Boag	District Nurse and Midwife. Tel.				67226
„ Bower	„	„	„	„	67988
„ Greenan	„	„	„	„	—
„ Griffin	„	„	„	„	68610
„ Hildon	„	„	„	„	68628
„ Howard	„	„	„	„	68734
„ Magson	„	„	„	„	67330
„ Blamires	District Nurse				67293
„ Ferguson	„	„			66926
„ Mason	„	„			68803
„ White	Midwife				66532

- (b) Infant Welfare Clinics.
Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m.
- (c) Ante-Natal Clinics.
Fridays (except first Friday in each month) at 2 p.m.
- (d) Post-Natal Clinics.
Second Friday in each month at 10 a.m.
- (e) Sunlight Clinics.
Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m.
- (f) Family Planning Clinic.
Thursdays (except August) at 2 p.m.
- (g) A Minor Ailments session for schoolchildren is held on
Tuesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m.
- (h) Speech Therapy sessions are held on Mondays and Wed-
nesdays (by appointment).
- (i) The services of Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Dental and
Aural Consultants are available (by appointment).

4. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47. No cases dealt with during the year under the provisions of this section.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

There is an adequate piped supply to all households obtained from the Tees Valley Water Board. Co-ordination is established with the Board, whose chemists take samples regularly for chemical and bacteriological examination. All samples have been highly satisfactory and no complaints have been received during this year.

Drainage and Sewerage.

With the exception of the Vale Cottages, situated on the Borough boundary and well outside the populated area, the town has a complete water carriage system. The whole of the sewerage is discharged in a crude state into the River Tees.

Public Cleansing.

The work is under the immediate control of the Sanitary Inspector and is carried out by direct labour. All refuse collected is disposed of by "Controlled Tipping" on the one site at the Erimus.

Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the Borough.

Municipal Swimming Baths.

The whole capacity of the Bath, amounting to 124,000 gallons, can be turned over, refiltered, sterilised, chlorinated and reoxidised in three and a half hours. The break-point system of Chlorination (or super-chlorination) is used, and all samples of bath water taken during the year for chemical and bacteriological examination were highly satisfactory.

Closet Accomodation.

With few exceptions the town has a complete water carriage system.

Schools.

The sanitary conditions of the Schools were satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

For the report, as follows, on the sampling work done under the Act I am indebted to the Inspector of Weights and Measures.

I have to report that during the year ended 31st December, 1954, fifty-six samples of foodstuffs were taken in the Borough of Thornaby-on-Tees for analysis under the above Act and I have pleasure in reporting that only one sample received an adverse report from the Public Analyst. This, a sample of Dripping purchased from a butcher, was certified by the Analyst to contain an excess of free fatty acid and was rancid and unfit for human consumption. The vendor was notified of the result and cautioned.

A detailed list of the samples taken is appended :—

Almond Essence ...	...	3	Lucozade ...	...	1
Butter ...	...	3	Malt Vinegar ...	...	1
Cocoa ...	...	2	Margarine ...	...	1
Coffee Essence ...	...	1	Mincemeat ...	...	3
Dripping ...	...	1	Milk ...	...	18
Glycerine & Honey ...	...	1	Orange Squash ...	...	3
Ground Almonds ...	...	2	Poloney ...	...	3
Ground Ginger ...	...	1	Pork Sausage ...	...	1
Lard ...	...	1	Stilton Cheese ...	...	1
Lemon Essence ...	...	2	Tripe ...	...	1
Lemon Curd ...	...	3	Whisky ...	...	1
Lemon Squash ...	...	1			—
Lime Juice ...	...	1			—
				Total	56
					—

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

There have been no outbreaks of Food Poisoning during the year.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1954.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Description of Work carried out.

Number of Inspections made	...	...	...	...	1326
Number of Re-Inspections made	...	...	...	...	2744
Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	891
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	219

RESULT OF SERVICE OF NOTICES

Drainage.

Single private drains reconstructed or repaired	...	...	...	30
Waste pipes of sinks trapped or renewed	...	...	...	8

Water Closets.

Provided with sufficient supply of water	...	...	...	46
Cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	9
Basins renewed	...	...	...	12

Houses.

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	82
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	78
Fall pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	28
Yard pavements repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	6
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	26
Defective Walls	...	...	...	...	33
Defective Plasterwork	...	...	...	...	80
Defective ceilings	...	...	...	...	15
Defective fireplaces	...	...	...	...	17
Dilapidated set pots	...	...	...	...	4
Handrails fixed or repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Defective sash cords and windows	...	...	...	...	43
Defective chimneys	...	...	...	...	15
Defective yard doors	...	...	...	...	35
Dilapidated coal doors	...	...	...	...	15
Dilapidated doors (front and internal)	...	...	...	...	43
Dilapidated dustbins	...	...	...	...	663
Dilapidated closet doors	...	...	...	...	19
Dilapidated closet seats	...	...	...	...	19
Defective closet roofs	...	...	...	...	45
Defective joints between flushpipe and W.C. basin	...	...	...	...	10
New windows provided to food stores	...	...	...	...	4
Defective flues	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous minor defects	...	...	...	...	28
Sinks provided or renewed	...	...	...	...	3
Houses provided with damp course	...	...	...	...	15
Water supply pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	7
Taps repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	1

Sanitary Conveniences.

Number of privies, moveable receptacles	...	...	...	6
Number of fresh water closets	...	...	...	6704
Number of ashbins	...	...	...	7527

Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades carried on within the Borough.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the Borough.

Slaughterhouses.

Number licensed	...	...	...	...	...	1
-----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT, 1950

Routine inspections were carried out for the purpose of enforcement of the provisions of the Act, and Orders made thereunder.

The Area remained free from notifiable diseases.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

By virtue of The Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, 1954, the use of a Special Designation has been obligatory for the purpose of all sales of milk by retail in the Borough since 1st April, 1954.

Particulars of registrations made and licenses issued are as follows.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 :—

Number of registered distributors
operating from :—

(a) Dairies in the Borough	...	...	...	2
(b) Dairy Farms in the Borough	...	...	...	1
(c) Shops in the Borough	...	...	...	62
(d) Premises outside the Borough	...	...	...	3

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949 :—

Number of licenses, including supplementary
licenses, issued in respect of :—

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	7
(b) Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	42
(c) Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	50

(b) **Ice-Cream.**

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14, and the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 to 1952.

Number of premises registered to manufacture ice-cream	...	...	...	...	...	3
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Number of premises registered to sell ice-cream	...	...	...	...	...	52
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Two of the manufacturing premises are equipped with pasteurising plants, and in the other a "complete cold mix" is used.

In all other premises where ice-cream is sold, the product is pre-packed and stored in continuous freezers.

(c) **Meat and other Foods.**

The following list shows the number of food premises in the Borough, by type of business :—

Meat	...	...	...	...	...	19
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	...	16
Refreshments	...	...	...	...	...	4
Groceries and Provisions	...	...	...	...	...	95
Fruit and Greengroceries	...	...	...	...	...	17
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	10
Sweets	...	...	...	...	...	11
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	7

TOTAL :—	<u>185</u>
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Sixteen fried fish shops and eleven butchers shops, are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Five hundred and forty inspections were made of premises where food is prepared, stored or sold.

Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food were generally well observed. The standard of cleanliness of premises and equipment was good.

Fifteen informal notices served were complied with and in no case was it found necessary to take statutory action or legal proceedings.

The following is a list of foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Meat	5	2	9	8
Meat Products		2	26	12
Canned Meats	4	1	20	12
Canned Fish		1	18	8
Canned Vegetables		2	11	4
Canned Fruit		1	23	10
Canned Milk			23	4
Flour and Confectionery			27	8
Preserves			3	6
Pickles and Sauces			3	13
TOTALS :—	12	3	0	5

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Five hundred and ninety-six inspections were made under the above Act. Twenty-one informal notices were served, twenty of which had been complied with at the end of the year.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Thirteen houses were found to be verminous and were sprayed with insecticides containing D.D.T. The results obtained were very satisfactory. Inspections were made to check re-infestation and tenants were advised on precautions to be taken.

The houses of all prospective tenants for Council houses are inspected and the house and furniture must be certified as clear from vermin before removal takes place.

RODENT CONTROL.

One trained Rodent Operative is employed part time on this work. Regular surveys were made and all complaints given prompt attention.

All sewers in the district received two treatments in accordance with the methods approved by the responsible Ministry, and routine inspections and treatments were made at other Council properties.

The following table shows the number of inspections and treatments carried out during the year :—

Type of Property				No. Inspected	No. Treated	
					Rats	Mice
Local Authority	...	...	...	8	3	3
Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	1797	44	38
Business Premises	...	...	...	458	3	4
				2263	50	45

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Three, seven cubic yard, Karrier refuse collectors are engaged full time on the collection of refuse, and a Clark tractor/dozer on disposal.

The personnel of the department is fifteen, comprising a foreman, three drivers, ten ashbin men and a tip attendant.

Refuse is collected from approximately 6,700 premises, and a regular weekly collection service from all premises was maintained throughout the year.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on low lying land near the old river Tees, and adjoining the Middlesbrough boundary.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Twenty-seven smoke observations were made during the year. No legal action was taken, but on seven occasions factory boiler plants were inspected in an endeavour to reduce smoke emission.

The Local Authority is a member of the Tees-side Smoke Abatement Committee, and in common with other members of the Committee is carrying out tests to assess the extent of Atmospheric Pollution. A deposit gauge and a lead peroxide instrument are sited in central positions in the town from which monthly tests are made by the Public Analyst.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Two licences to keep a pet shop were issued during the year. In both instances the conditions of the licence were well observed.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS, 1928 to 1936.

Licences were granted to twenty-four firms for the keeping of Petroleum Spirit, each licence being for twelve months.

All the petroleum spirit is kept in separate stores, specially constructed of fire-proof materials throughout, and the Regulations otherwise complied with.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.
INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	2	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	55	94	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ...	5	9	—	—
Total ...	62	108	2	—

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

Particulars	No. of Defects			
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.) ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)				
Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	7	7	1	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	7	7	1	—

There are no Outworkers.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	724
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	1,527
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1929 and 1932	...	...	...	...	68
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	84
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	226
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	268

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	...	...	...	93
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	86

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	75
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	6
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	78
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	63
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	9
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

